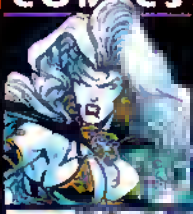


**CHAOS!**  
COMICS



**3**

\$2.95

(of 6)

shaw001

# Lady Death



Area 96

JENSEN



**I**N THE BEGINNING, THE COSMOS WAS WITHOUT FORM, WITHOUT ORDER. IT WAS A VAST, UNCHARTED PLACE.

THE  
PORTAL  
BECKONS! YOUR  
VENGEANCE ON  
ASGARD IS  
AT HAND!

AMASS, DOOM  
MAGISTRATES,  
AND STRIDE  
THROUGH!

THOUGH YOU  
MUST IMMERSE  
YOURSELVES IN  
UNHOLY, VILE  
CREATION KNOW  
YOUR PLEDGE AND  
REMEMBER IT  
WELL, SCORPIA.

THE TIME  
FOR ORDER  
IS OVER. AGAIN  
CHAOS! SHALL  
RULE THE  
COSMOS!

THE CHAOS LORDS  
WISHED IT REMAINED  
THAT WAY, BUT IT  
WAS NOT TO BE.

ORDER CAME.

IN THE  
NAME OF OUR  
LORD GENOCIDE,  
LET CHAOS  
REIGN!  
DESTROY  
THE FLESH-  
LINGS!

DESTROY:  
THE ONLY  
COMMAND  
OBEYING!

NOW MANY, MANY EONS  
LATER, THE INDUSTRIOUS  
WHEELS OF CHANGE CHURN  
ON WRATHWORLD: A  
REMNANT OF THE TIME  
BEFORE CREATION.



BEYOND THE PALE, ON THE  
EDGE OF THE UNKNOWN,  
RESTS ASGARD, THE WARRIOR  
REALM. THE ILLUSION OF PEACE  
SURROUNDS A DWELLING,  
AND INSIDE -- A GODDESS.

RARELY HAS LADY DEATH KNOWN  
CONTENTMENT, BUT SHE FEELS IT  
THIS MORNING. ALL THE PROPHECIES  
OF ASGARD'S DOOM SEEM FAR OFF,  
A NIGHTMARE TO BE FORGOTTEN.

SHE CAME TO THE GOLDEN REALM  
AND FOUND A PLACE AMONG THE  
RACE OF ELDER WARRIORS. THEIR  
FIERY SPIRIT MATCHES HER OWN AND  
TOGETHER THEY TURNED BACK A  
BATTALION OF GENOCIDE'S DOOM  
MAGISTRATES.

AND SO THEY  
CELEBRATED, EACH  
IN THEIR OWN WAY...

VANDALA,  
MY HALF SISTER,  
IS RECOVERING AND  
WE'VE WON A CRUCIAL  
VICTORY AGAINST  
GENOCIDE'S  
HORDE.

YET  
SOMETHING  
TROUBLES ME. I  
UNDERSTAND WE  
ARE AT WAR, BUT  
WHY? THAT IS THE  
QUANDARY.

I  
ENCOUNTERED  
GENOCIDE A TIME  
AGO IN MY ENDLESS  
GRAVEYARD\*. HE WAS  
SCAVENGING, BUT FOR  
WHAT? HIS ATTRACTIONS  
HAVE TURNED TO  
ASGARD, WHY?

SINESTRA  
CALLED IT A "RETURN  
TO CHAOS". WHATEVER IT  
MAY BE, WE CAN EXPECT  
RETALIATION. AND SO BE IT.  
AT LEAST WE HAD LAST  
NIGHT, ME AND MY...  
COMPANION...

MILADY?

\* SEE  
LADY DEATH:  
THE CRUCIBLE  
#1/2.

YOU'RE  
AWAKE.

BARELY.  
ANOTHER  
FORTNIGHT OF  
SLEEP WILL DO  
ME GOOD!

WHAT'S  
YOUR  
NAME?

GRIMMIR.  
MOST CALL  
ME GRIMM  
FOR SHORT,  
MILADY.





WHAT IS IT THAT YOU DO GRIM?

I'M A THIEF.

THEN WHY AID THE ASGARDIANS?

ON THE PERIMETER OF ASGARD, ALL PREPARE FOR WAR.

THE STAND OFF EATS AT TIME.

LOOK IN THE DISTANCE! A RIPPLE IN THE SKY!

IT'S THEM! THE DOOM MAGISTRATES!

ATTACK, MY NECRO-ELITE!

DEATH TO THE FALSE RULERS! DEATH TO THE WEAKLING SOFT SKINS! SHOW NO SALVATION. MERCY ONLY WEAKENS OUR RESOLVE! EXTINGUISH THEM! THEY ARE LIMITED FORMS, UNWORTHY OF THE COMING CHAOS!

PRaise GENOCIDE'S NAME FOR IN OUR ALLEGIANCE WE REFLECT HIS WILL!

OH HOW THEY SHALL PAY! AND THIS LADY DEATH -- FOR DISHONORING MY FIRST-BLOOD SWEETRA, YOU WILL KNOW A THOUSAND DEATHS!

HAIL HOLY GENOCIDE!

HAIL CHAOS!

I, TOO, AM AN ASGARDIAN, BUT NOT ROYALTY. I'D LAY MY LIFE DOWN FOR THE REALM. WHEN YOU CAME ALONG AND LED US IN BATTLE, I CHOSE TO FOLLOW.

THE END TIME IS COMING, BUT THERE'S NOTHING WORSE THAN DYING WITHOUT BATTLE. IF I MUST GO, THEN I CHOOSE TO GO FIGHTING.

YOU MAKE SENSE, GRIM. GOOD, GOOD SENSE.

WHA?

THEY ATTACK!





TO THE ASSEMBLED ASGARDIAN WARRIORS, IT IS A NIGHTMARE VISION. GENOCIDE'S HORDE IS AN ENDLESS SWARM. ON THE GROUND AND ABOVE, THEY DESCEND.

THE IMPERIAL VAL-FATHER ODIN, COMMANDER OF WARRIORS, KNEW THIS TIME OF JUDGMENT WOULD COME, AND ALL CREATION WOULD HANG IN THE BALANCE.

BUT ODIN, THEIR LEADER IS GONE -- RENDERED UNLIVING BY DOOM MAGISTRATES. IF ASGARD IS TO SURVIVE, IT WILL TAKE A MIRACLE.

WHO WILL LEAD? WHO WILL FOLLOW?

ON MY MARK, WARRIORS!

AS YOU COMMAND, LORD TYR.

DEATH TO THE SOFT SKIN!

DECIMATE THEIR FINITE FORMS!

THE LORD TYR?

**ATTACK!**

WHAT CHANCE HAVE WE? HOW CAN WE PREVAIL AGAINST THESE BEASTS?

WEAPONSMITH BROCK AND THE FENRIS WOLF?

RRRR

SOME SAY, IT IS BETTER TO DIE IN BATTLE. I COULDN'T AGREE LESS.

ODIN'S BATTLE MAIDENS THE VALKYRIE?

LORD TYR HAS NO PLAN. WE NEED OUR LEADER, VULNAVIA!

SUMMON YOUR ENERGIES! PREPARE TO FIGHT!

IRONIC. TO PROTECT THE REALM, I MUST GUARD THE GATES THAT KEPT MY PEOPLE OUT OF ASGARD. WAR MAKES FOR STRANGE ALLIES.

**DESTROY THEM ALL!**

THE HONORABLE ICE GIANT, THRALL?

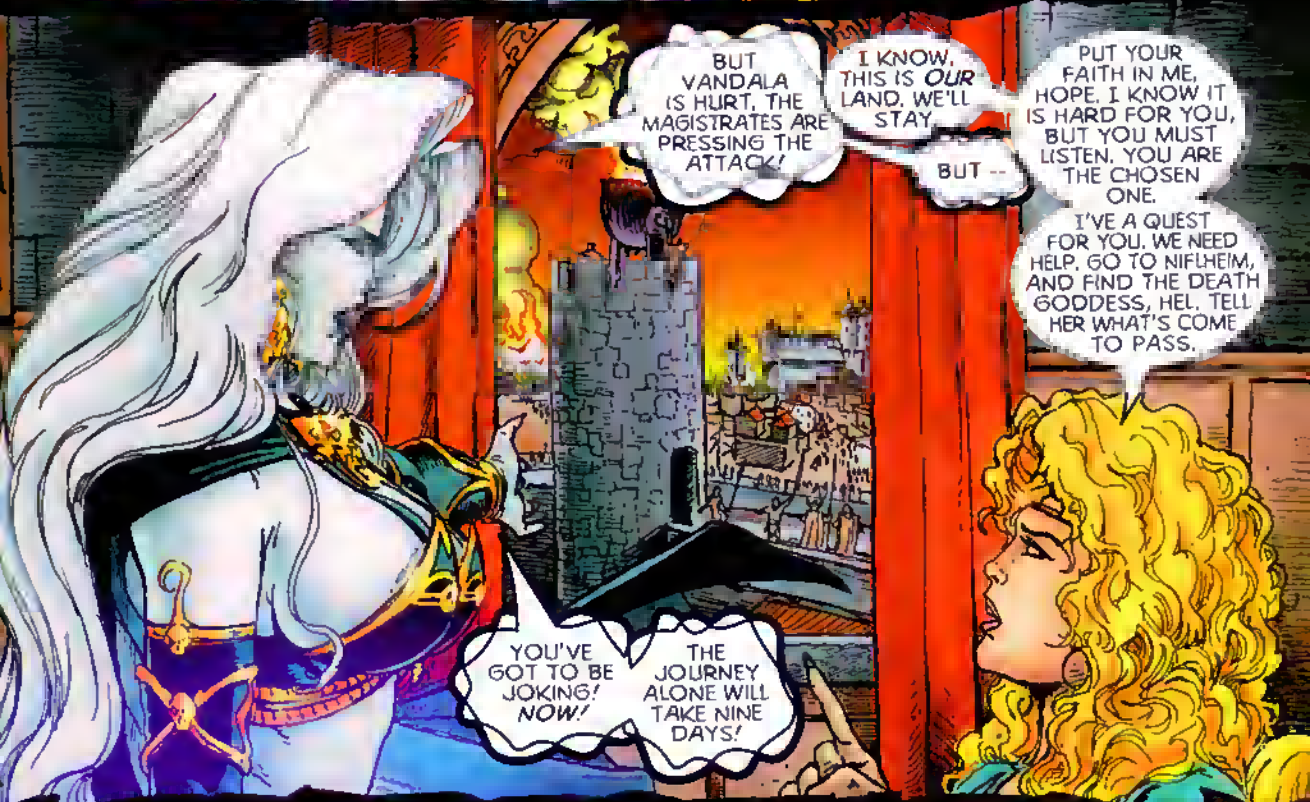
**SLAK**





FRIGGA,  
WE MUST GET  
YOU AWAY  
FROM HERE!

I'LL DO NO  
SUCH THING  
CHILD



BUT  
VANDALA  
IS HURT, THE  
MAGISTRATES ARE  
PRESSING THE  
ATTACK!

I KNOW,  
THIS IS *OUR*  
LAND. WE'LL  
STAY.

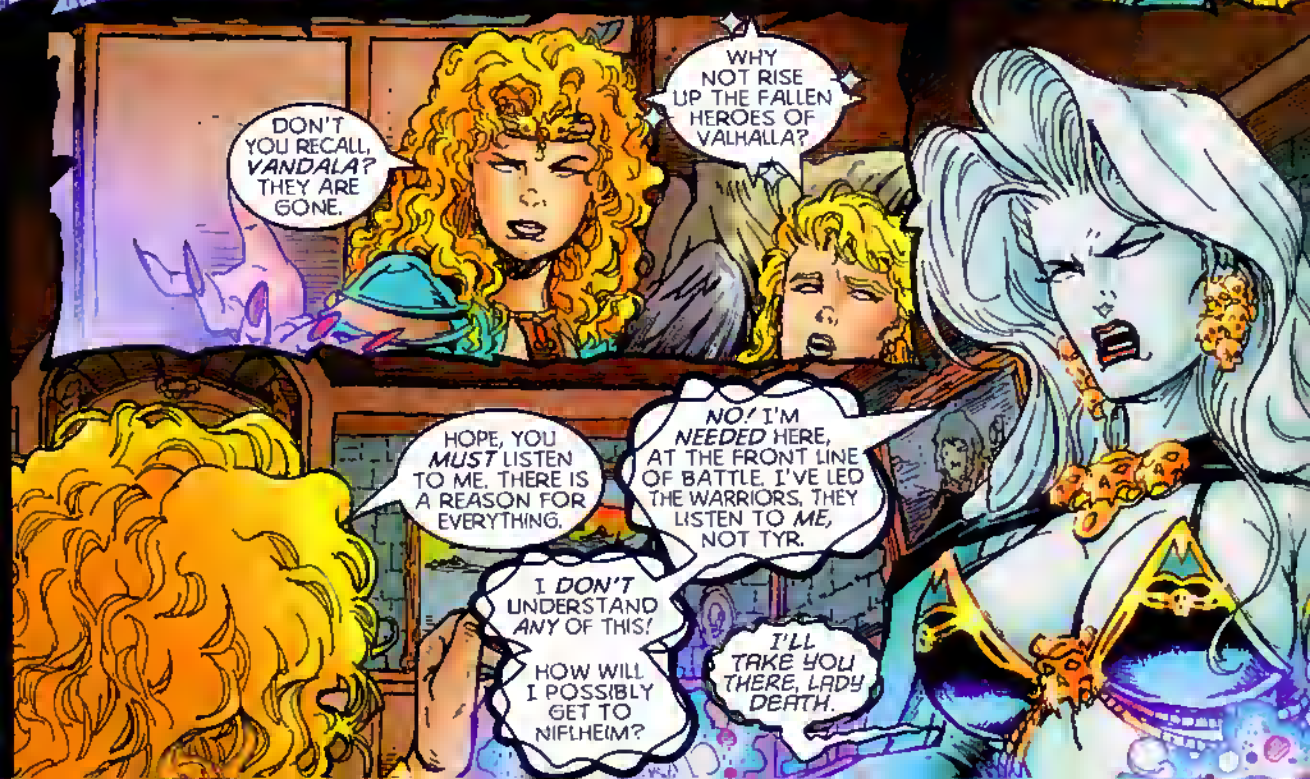
BUT --

PUT YOUR  
FAITH IN ME,  
HOPE. I KNOW IT  
IS HARD FOR YOU,  
BUT YOU MUST  
LISTEN. YOU ARE  
THE CHOSEN  
ONE.

I'VE A QUEST  
FOR YOU. WE NEED  
HELP. GO TO NIFLHEIM,  
AND FIND THE DEATH  
GODDESS, HEL. TELL  
HER WHAT'S COME  
TO PASS.

YOU'VE  
GOT TO BE  
JOKING!  
NOW!

THE  
JOURNEY  
ALONE WILL  
TAKE NINE  
DAYS!



DON'T  
YOU RECALL,  
VANDALA?  
THEY ARE  
GONE.

WHY  
NOT RISE  
UP THE FALLEN  
HEROES OF  
VALHALLA?

HOPE, YOU  
MUST LISTEN  
TO ME. THERE IS  
A REASON FOR  
EVERYTHING.

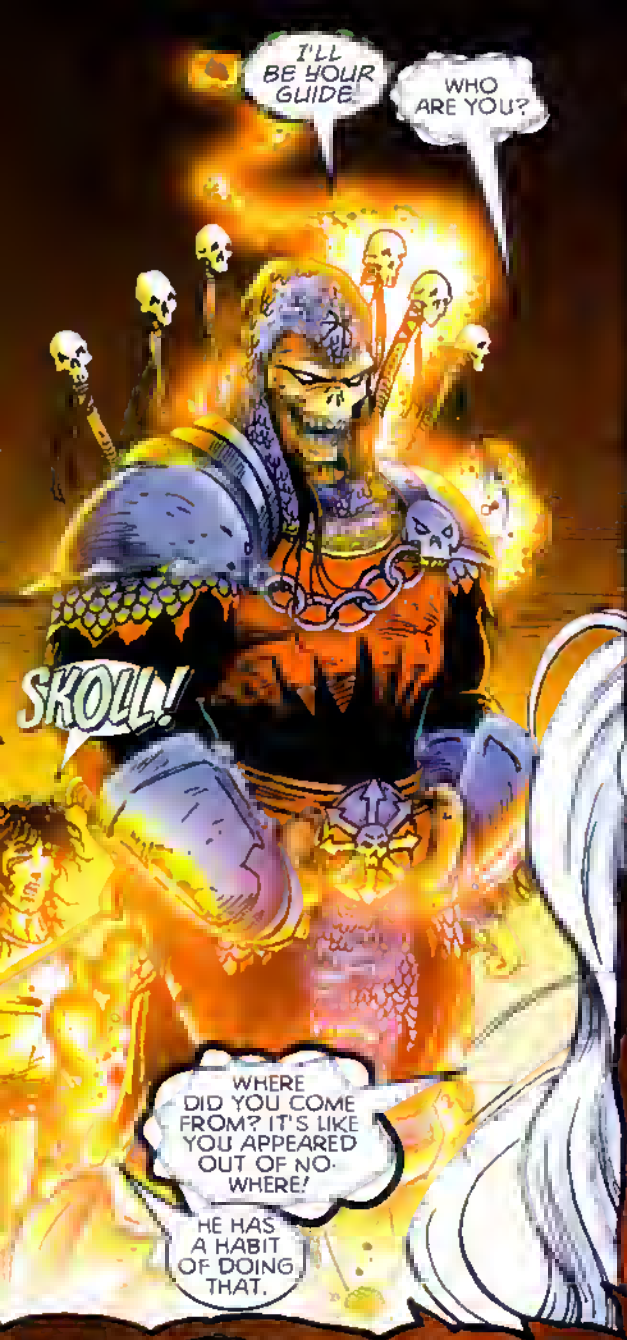
NO! I'M  
NEEDED  
HERE,  
AT THE FRONT LINE  
OF BATTLE. I'VE LED  
THE WARRIORS, THEY  
LISTEN TO ME,  
NOT TYR.

I DON'T  
UNDERSTAND  
ANY OF THIS!

HOW WILL  
I POSSIBLY  
GET TO  
NIFLHEIM?

I'LL  
TAKE YOU  
THERE, LADY  
DEATH.





I'LL  
BE YOUR  
GUIDE

WHO  
ARE YOU?

SKOLL!

WHERE  
DID YOU COME  
FROM? IT'S LIKE  
YOU APPEARED  
OUT OF NO-  
WHERE!

HE HAS  
A HABIT  
OF DOING  
THAT.

HOLD  
TIGHT,  
MILADY.



THIS IS  
SKOLL A  
LOCAL HUNTER  
TRAPPER

DO YOU TRUST  
HIM?

BEEN  
HUNTIN' THESE  
PARTS FOR HOW  
LONG I DON'T  
RECALL.

I'VE  
KNOWN SKOLL  
SINCE I WAS  
A CHILD

NO ONE  
KNOWS THE  
TERRAIN BETTER.  
GO WITH HIM,  
CHILD.

I'LL GUARD  
FRIGGA AND  
VANDALA.

IF IT  
SUITS YOU,  
GRIM.

HOPE,  
BE QUICK  
ABOUT IT. WE'RE  
COUNTING ON YOU!

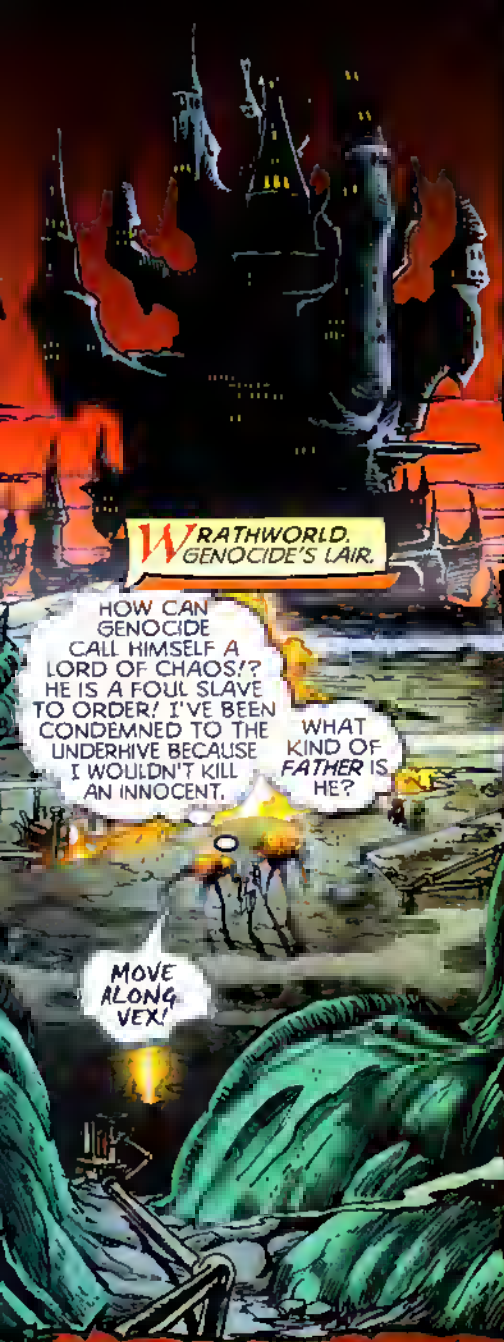


DOESN'T  
MAKE SENSE.  
LEAVE NOW WHILE  
ASGARD IS AT  
ITS WEAKEST?  
I DON'T LIKE  
THIS!

ATTACK!







**WRATHWORLD,  
GENOCIDE'S LAIR.**

HOW CAN  
GENOCIDE  
CALL HIMSELF A  
LORD OF CHAOS??  
HE IS A FOUL SLAVE  
TO ORDER! I'VE BEEN  
CONDEMNED TO THE  
UNDERHIVE BECAUSE  
I WOULDN'T KILL  
AN INNOCENT.

WHAT  
KIND OF  
FATHER IS  
HE?

MOVE  
ALONG,  
VEX!



THIS DAMNED  
COLLAR PREVENTS  
ME FROM SHAPE-  
CHANGING!

ENTER AND  
SURRENDER!



EVEN  
MY MOTHER  
ANTIGONE HAS  
ABANDONED ME.  
THERE IS NO CASTE  
LOWER IN OUR  
CULTURE!

I AM CAST  
AWAY, I AM  
NOTHING.

AN INFINITY AWAY, IN THE  
WILDS OF THE ASGARDIAN  
BRUSH, VULNAVIA, FALLEN LEADER  
OF THE VALKYRIE APPEARS...

CHEERS OF  
CELEBRATION  
QUICKLY TURNED  
TO SOUND OF WAR.  
MY PEOPLE NEED ME.  
BUT CAN I TRUST  
MYSELF? WILL I FAIL  
THEM AGAIN AS I  
FAILED ODIN?



WHAT'S  
THAT?

SKOLL!  
AND WHO  
IS THAT WITH  
HIM? CAN IT  
BE?





HOLD  
ON!

AS SKOLL RAISES HIS  
HAND, AN ANCIENT  
SYMBOL APPEARS AND  
FROM IT COMES WILD,  
UNTAMED ENERGY.

SHRAKAOOO

UNBELIEVABLE!  
ALREADY, I SEE IT!

YOU'VE  
MADE A NINE  
DAY JOURNEY IN  
SECONDS. YOU'RE  
NO COMMON  
TRAPPER!

AND YOU,  
MILADY? YOUR  
BLOODLINE REACHES  
TO HEAVEN, BUT YOUR  
ROOTS LIE IN HELL.  
YOU SEEK MEGADEATH  
ON EARTH, BUT HAVE  
EMBRACED ASGARD'S  
WARRIOR WAYS.

NIFLHEIM.  
THERE'S  
MORE TO YOU  
THAN MEETS THE  
EYE, SKOLL.

THEY SAY  
YOU ARE THE  
CHOSEN ONE.  
YOU, MILADY,  
ARE THE REAL  
ARADOX!

SNAP



HOW DO YOU KNOW OF ME?

I'VE CONSULTED THE FATES.

WHAT DO YOU WANT OUT OF ALL THIS?

LET'S JUST SAY I HAVE A VESTED INTEREST IN THE OUTCOME.

WE'VE ARRIVED. HEL'S HOME.

DEAD? PERHAPS DOOM MAGISTRATES GOT TO HER?

THEN WE'RE FINISHED HERE! LET'S BE ON OUR WAY.

NO, PERHAPS THERE'S ANOTHER WAY.

I FEEL LIKE A PAWN IN A GAME YOU ARE PLAYING!  
WHO OR WHAT ARE YOU? TELL ME THE TRUTH, OR PRAY TO WHO YOU HOLD HOLY!

EASE UP. I GUESS I OWE YOU THAT MUCH.

MY REAL NAME AIN'T SKOLL, IT'S BEDLAM. ORIGINALLY, I CAME FROM THE AMERICAN SOUTHWEST, FROM THE HOPI INDIAN TRIBE.

CRASH!



MY FATHER CROSSED  
MY PEOPLE. HE TRICKED  
US INTO GIVING UP OUR  
LAND. I SOUGHT TO SET  
THINGS RIGHT, BUT MY  
PLAN BACKFIRED.\*

IN A MOMENT OF FURY, I  
LINEARTHEDED AN ANCIENT  
TALISMAN KNOWN AS THE  
CHAOS CREST -- AND IN  
DOING SO, I UNKNOWINGLY  
RELEASED EIGHT GREAT  
FAMILIES OF EVIL.

\* SEE  
CHAOS  
QUARTERLY  
#1.

MY PENANCE?

TRAVELING TIME AND SPACE  
I MUST TRACK THE GREAT  
FAMILIES DOWN, RECAPTURE  
'EM AND RETURN THEM TO  
THEIR PRISON, THE TALISMAN.

IN LINEAR TIME,  
THIS HAS LASTED  
FIVE YEARS.

BUT LINEAR TIME MEANS  
NOTHING TO ME. IN THE  
BLINK OF AN EYE, I CAN  
GO ELSEWHERE AND LIVE  
A THOUSAND LIFETIMES.

AND FOR BETTER  
OR WORSE, I HAVE.





WHY ARE YOU HERE NOW?

THE TALISMAN. IT'S GONE.

GENOCIDE'S BEEN SCVENGING THE COSMOS FOR EONS, STEALING ARTIFACTS. I BELIEVE HE'S STOLEN IT.

SO?

GENOCIDE IS AN ANCIENT BEING OF UNFATHOMABLE POWER. HE LIVED BEFORE ORDER CAME TO THE COSMOS. HE LIVED IN A WASH OF CHAOS!

IF HE HAS THE TALISMAN, HE'S UP TO NO GOOD.

THEN WHAT ARE WE WAITING FOR?



AFTER ALL, I AM THE QUEEN OF ALL THAT IS DEAD AND DYING!

KATHOOM

KRAK

KRAK

KRAK



GENOCIDE IS IN FOR A TREAT. HE CANNOT KILL WHAT IS ALREADY DEAD!

HA HA HA HA HA HA HA HA HA HA!

LET'S BE ON OUR WAY, MILADY!



THEY ARE CALLED  
GENOCIDE'S HAMMERS.

EIGHT TOWERING MONOLITHS  
THAT REACH MILES INTO THE  
SKY, HEADING FOR THE  
VASTNESS OF SPACE.

HORDES OF MILLIONS  
HAVE WORKED CEASELESSLY  
ON THEIR CONSTRUCTION,  
ALL IN THE NAME OF  
FORMLESSNESS!

DISORDER.

CHAOS!

THIS MOMENT IS  
SPECIAL, DIVINE  
BECAUSE A GREAT  
CEREMONY IS  
IN PROGRESS.

THE MISCHIEVOUS, SCAVENGING  
SCARBOIL CLAN SAUNTER TOWARD  
THE APEX OF GENOCIDE'S HAMMER,  
HAULING A VERY SPECIAL OBJECT.

WHAT  
LORD GENOCIDE  
WANTS, NO ONE  
KNOWS, SO UP  
AND WE GO.

OURS  
IS NOT TO  
KNOW.

OURS  
IS TO REAP  
AND SOW

WHO  
WHO WHO  
WHO?

HEE  
HEE HE  
HEE!

HA  
AHA  
HA!

LOWER  
IT INTO  
PLACE

YES, LORD  
GENOCIDE.

STEADY IT  
AS SHE GOES.  
IF WE DROP IT  
DEATH WILL BE THE  
LEAST OF OUR  
WOES.

AND  
SO IT GOES,  
AND SO IT  
GOES

WHAT  
IS IT LORD  
CAN YOU  
SAY?

PERFECT.


DO YOU  
RECALL THE  
ENDLESS GRAVEYARD  
OF LADY DEATH? THAT  
NIGHT I LOOKED INSIDE  
HER MIND, I SAW THE  
PERFECT WAY TO BRING  
ABOUT THE END OF  
ORDER. ASGARD  
IS THE KEY.

AND  
THIS CHAOS!  
CREST IS THE  
CONDUIT.

DO YOU  
KNOW THE  
SWEETEST PART  
ABOUT MY SCHEME?  
THE END SHALL  
COME FROM  
THEM!

THEIR LAST  
LIVING MOMENT  
WILL BE THE  
KNOWLEDGE THAT  
THEY CAUSED THE  
DESTRUCTION OF  
ORDER AND THE  
RISE OF CHAOS!





LADY DEATH,  
HA! WHAT KIND  
OF LEADER IS SHE,  
EH *THRALL*? SHE'S  
NOWHERE TO BE  
FOUND. SHE'S A  
COWARD!

FIGHT ON,  
TYR. THEY  
DESCEND!

DOOM

DOOM

PRESS THE  
ATTACK!  
FROM  
ABOVE!  
FROM  
BELOW!

DOOM

DOOM

ATTACK!

WHERE  
IS LADY  
DEATH?!

WHERE?!





Slice

THE TIDE TURNS! WE'RE LOSING!



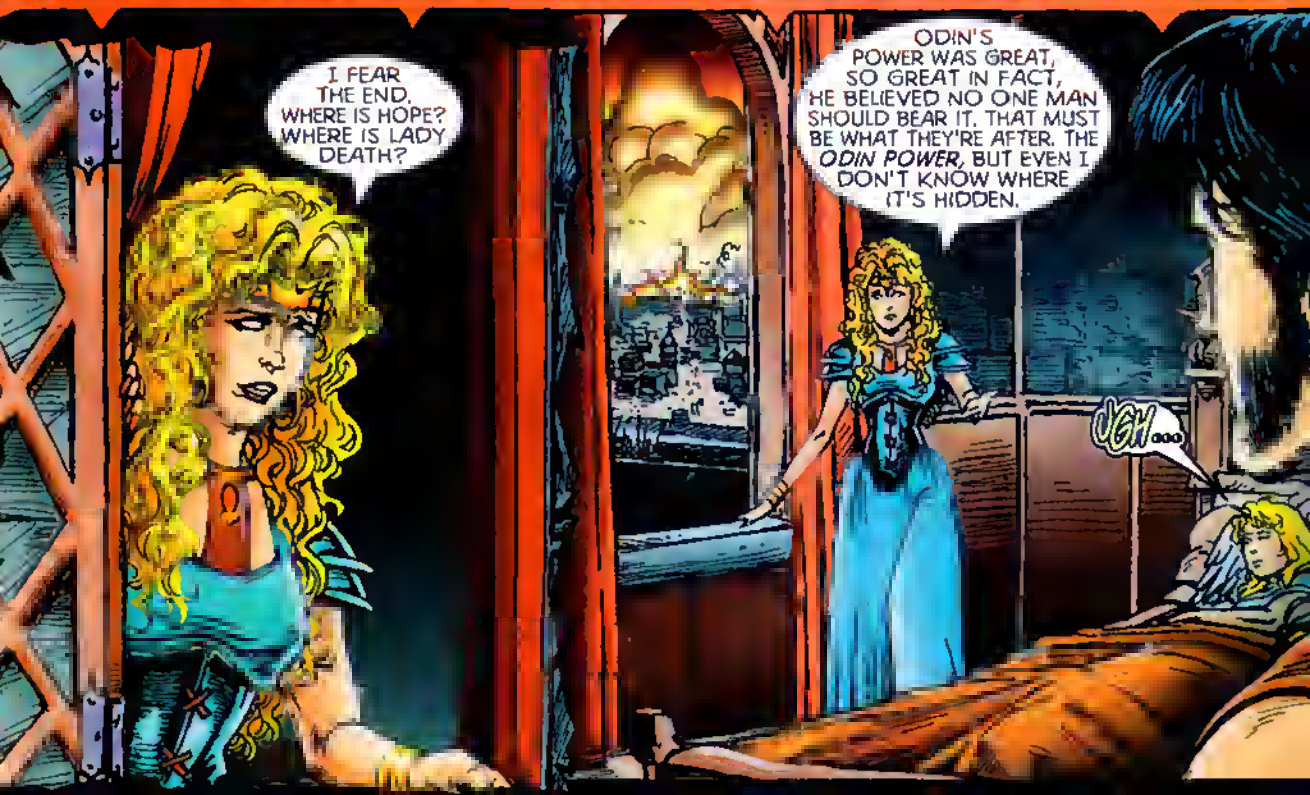
FIRE YOUR BIG CANNONS!

TREMBLE FLESHLINGS, TREMBLE IN THE NAME OF GENOCIDE!

YOUR TIME IS GONE!

FSSSS

FSSSS



I FEAR THE END. WHERE IS HOPE? WHERE IS LADY DEATH?

ODIN'S POWER WAS GREAT, SO GREAT IN FACT, HE BELIEVED NO ONE MAN SHOULD BEAR IT. THAT MUST BE WHAT THEY'RE AFTER. THE ODIN POWER, BUT EVEN I DON'T KNOW WHERE IT'S HIDDEN.

UGH...





I BET  
YOU NEVER  
THOUGHT YOU'D  
SHARE YOUR DYING  
BREATH WITH AN  
ICE GIANT, EH  
TYR?

I DON'T  
PLAN TO,  
DOG!

AAAAA!



BETTER  
YOU THAN  
ME!  
AND NONE  
WILL BE THE  
WISER!

DAMNED  
WOLF! TURN  
BACK!  
NOT  
LISTENING.  
WHAT?  
NO!



THAT'S  
RIGHT! DECIMATE  
THEM! MAKE THEM  
RUE THE DAY THEY  
CRAWLED FROM THE  
SHADOWS AND FOUND  
THE LIGHT!

SPAT

AAAAAA!

SPAT

RRRR

TYR KILLED  
THRALL TO  
SAVE HIS OWN  
HIDE!

WHY DID  
I EVER LEAVE THE  
UNDERGROUND?!



PULL BACK!  
THEY'VE GAINED  
THE FRONT  
GATE!

THEY'RE  
COMING!  
RETREAT!

# THOOM

BY THE VAL-  
FATHER? WE'RE  
DOOMED!

WHERE IS  
THE CHOSEN  
ONE?

OUT OF  
MY WAY!

# WAK

TYR, YOU  
COWARD! THIS  
IS NO WAY FOR A  
WARRIOR BORN  
TO BEHAVE!

DON'T YOU  
UNDERSTAND? WHEN  
THEY KILL YOU, YOU DON'T  
GO TO VALHALLA! YOU  
DON'T GO TO PREPARE  
FOR THE LAST BATTLE.  
IT'S A CROCK!

THIS IS  
THE LAST  
BATTLE!

IT'S  
OVER!

THERE'S NO  
SIGN OF LADY DEATH.  
I'LL FIND HER IF I HAVE  
TO SCAN EVERY CRANNY,  
EVERY NOOK. SHE WILL  
PAY FOR DISHONORING  
SINESTRAL! SHE  
WILL PAY!

COMMANDER,  
LOOK ABOVE!

# FZZZRAAADP





ASGARDIANS,  
HEAR ME!

DIG DEEP,  
HOLD TO THE  
REASON YOU  
ARE FIGHTING  
FOR!

WHETHER  
YOU FIGHT FOR  
FAMILY, FRIENDS,  
LOVED ONES OR  
THE REALM ITSELF,  
BE READY TO  
DIE THIS DAY!

AND KNOW  
THIS: BE PROUD!  
TOGETHER WE FIGHT  
FOR SOMETHING  
BIGGER THAN  
US ALL.

TOGETHER,  
WE FIGHT FOR  
THE FATE OF  
EVERYTHING  
THAT EXISTS!

ONWARD!





**TRAMPLED  
UNDERFOOT!**

FEATURING THE  
MOST EPIC BATTLE  
EVER DEPICTED IN  
COMIC HISTORY.



# CHAOS! COMICS HALLOWEEN BASH '96

AND FIRST ANNUAL FIEND AWARDS



**A bit of Chaos! (L-R)**  
 Rodd, Jason, Kelly, Justiniano,  
 Jack, Steven, Francisca, Marja,  
 Tanya



**Doomsday Live!**  
 Mike and the Doomsday  
 Destruction Crew pounded out  
 some Chaotic! sounds. Adam  
 Dunn as Evil Ernie joined in on  
 "Resurrection!"



*Imagine, if you will, a room full of Fiends from all over the U.S. - gathering to celebrate Halloween..... Chaos! Style! Come now and experience the 1996 Chaos! Halloween Bash and check out the winners and runners-up in the First Annual Fiend Awards!*



## AND NOW..... THE RESULTS OF THE 1996 CHAOS! COMICS FIRST ANNUAL FIEND AWARDS

Chaos! Comics would like to thank everyone who came out for the 1996 Halloween Bash/First Annual Fiend Awards.... we all had a great time! For those fiends who couldn't make it this year... maybe we will see you all next year. These three pages are dedicated to bringing the Fiend Awards to you all! Enjoy.

### LETTER HACKER OF THE YEAR

**WINNER**  
 Judy Evers

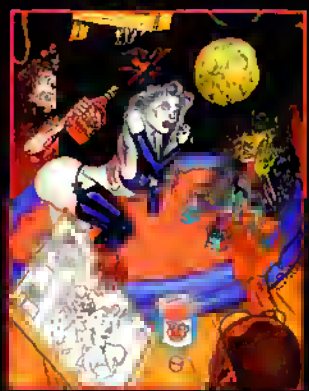
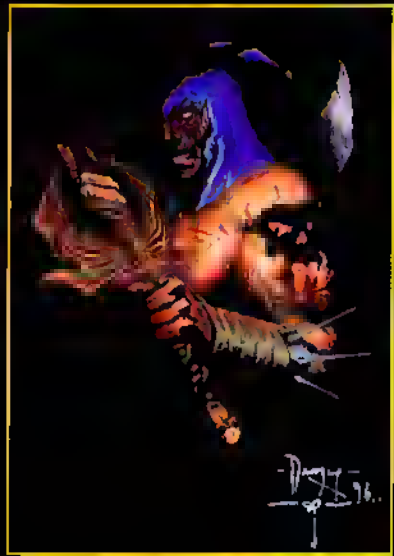
Judy has been writing to us since the beginning of Chaos! Her letters are consistently thought-provoking. You can see many of her letters published in any of our letters pages.

**NOMINEE:**  
 Jay Prendergast

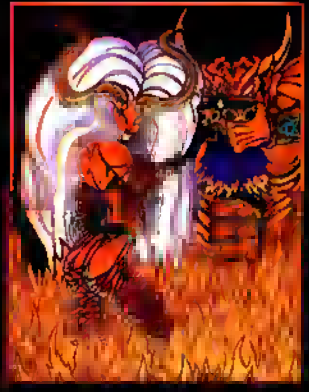
**NOMINEE:**  
 Dan L. Wells II

### ART OF THE YEAR

**WINNER**  
 Marian Danzig



**NOMINEE:**  
 Ricardo Castillo



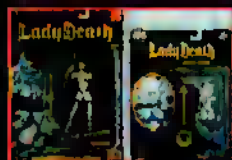
**NOMINEE:**  
 Joe Howard



## CUSTOM ACTION FIGURE OF THE YEAR



**WINNER**  
*Staci Ingram*

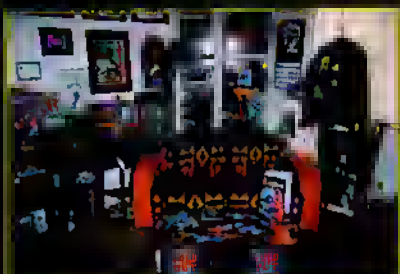


**NOMINEE:** Dave Ballance

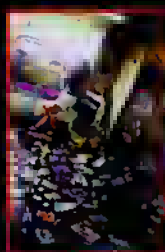
**NOMINEE:**  
Donald  
Manning



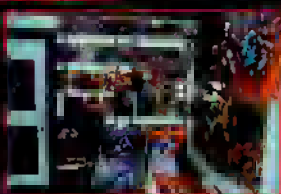
## BEST CHAOS! COLLECTION ON DISPLAY



**WINNER**  
*Kamala Petty*



**NOMINEE:**  
Tina  
Maestas



**NOMINEE:** Scott Rorie

## CUSTOM CAR OF THE YEAR



**WINNER**  
*Tina & Wayne  
Maestas*

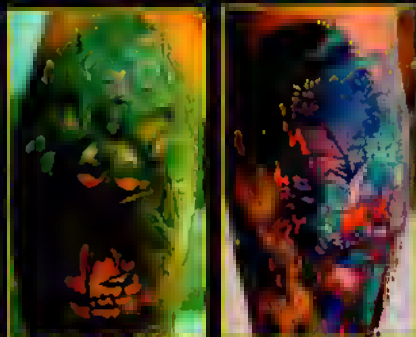


**NOMINEE:** Gabriel J. Barrera



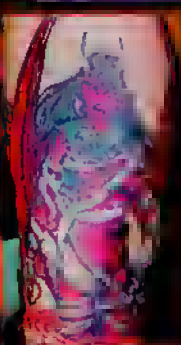
**NOMINEE:** Matt Mosiman

## TATTOO OF THE YEAR



**WINNER**  
*Derek Deraedt*

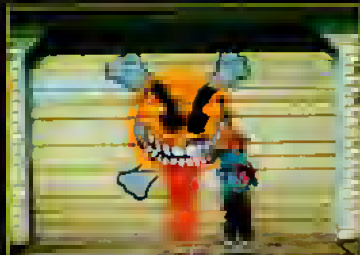
**NOMINEE:**  
Sean Brummett



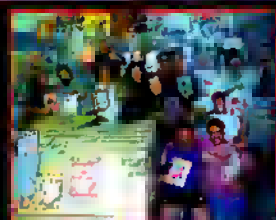
**NOMINEE:**  
Chas C. Camplin



## CHAOS! LIFESTYLE



**WINNER**  
*Dave Wooden*



**NOMINEE:** Brian Anton



**NOMINEE:** Tina & Wayne Maestas

## HONORABLE MENTIONS



RON LOW -  
sculpture



DAN L. WELLS II -  
for coining the phrase  
"Sworn To The Black"



## BEST POEM OF THE YEAR

### WINNER

Wayne Yurchak

## ERNIE'S STORY

There once was a small lonely child  
With no real friends of his own.  
They say he possessed special powers,  
We'd better just leave him alone.

His mother and father abused him.  
The neighbors all turned a blind eye.  
Said Ernest just isn't our problem,  
But they were all living a lie.

Society wanted to change time,  
They tampered with his delicate brain.  
They poked and they probed and they prodded,  
And slowly they drove him insane.

In haze she appeared there before him  
From the depths of his utter despair.  
I love you my dear little child,  
I'll help you, believe me, I care.

You love me? You'll help me? wept Ernie,  
Who are you? he gasped, out of breath.  
In a previous life I was Hope, she replied,  
But Hope is gone, I'm Lady Death.

Now open your eyes, she commanded,  
I'll show you the plan that I've mapped.  
He saw total death and destruction  
And that's when his fragile mind snapped.

... for want of some love and affection  
A terrible price must be paid.  
God help us and will you forgive us  
For this pitiful creature we've made?

So parents, please care for your children.  
Don't let this sad story come true.  
Don't hit them or hurt them or hate them,  
Just hug them and say I love you.

### Excerpt from Wayne's Acceptance Letter

To Brian and the Chaos Crew, I just received my reward for winning the best poem of 1996 and I wanted to thank you. The trophy is really awesome..... Thanks again to everyone at Chaos! and best of luck in all your future endeavors.

Sincerely,  
Wayne Yurchak

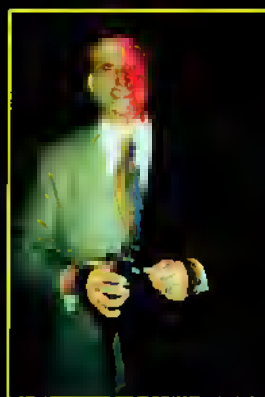
**NOMINEE:** Wizard Linda Duangrath

**NOMINEE:** Ed J. Wood

## FIEND OF THE YEAR! 1996

# DAVE WOODEN

The Fiend of the year was chosen from the winners of the rest of the categories. This person must be the worthiest of them all, and Dave Wooden did just that. Congratulations, Dave, and thanks for supporting us since the beginning.



### A Note From Dave Wooden Fiend Of The Year! 1996

"I still can't believe that I'm the Fiend of the Year and then to also get the Chaos Lifestyle Award! Even with both of the plaques sitting in front of me, I still find it unbelievable! It is a great honor to be picked as Fiend of the Year by you all! In the past 6 years that I've been collecting comics I've never met a nicer bunch of people than you all at Chaos Comics or any publisher that works as hard as Chaos Comics does to show how much they care about their Fiends (readers). Every time I'm around you, I feel like a kid in a candy store. It was so cool to see how much work everyone had put in to the Chaos Fiends Awards contest and see all the entries and then to think that I won Fiend of the Year! I truly can't find the words to thank you. Chaos Comics is and always will be #1. Thank you all so much from the bottom of my heart where darkness dwells. You guys are the best."

David Wooden  
Fiend # 943



# Last Writes

Last Writes: 7645 E. Evans Rd. Suite 6 • Scottsdale AZ 85260

## DEAR CHAOS!

I have written to you before about not being able to find some of your comics anywhere. But recently I discovered your Collectors Corner Catalog and now I have to find a job so I can get the money to order from it. I have read that Marvel comics is not going to be selling any more and I think it is because your comics are better. I just wanted to congratulate you for putting one of your highest competitors out—now you should put Image Comics out.

Nicholas R. Brunell

Nicholas,

*It's great to hear you've caught on to our plan—first these competitors and then the WORLD!*

## DEAR CHAOS!

Boy, "The Crucible" just gets better and better! Except for . . . Vandalu surviving her attack by Sinestra. C'Mon, killing her off in #1 was unpredictable and ballsy. Let her stay dead. It just didn't seem like you guys to give her a touching deathbed/lingering to life kind of scene. Too much nobility and touching melodrama. The only way I could accept this particular turn of events would be if, while Lady Death is busy "celebrating" with Grim, Vandalu finally heads off to Valhalla. Vulnavia arrives, blames Lady D. for her sister's death (while she's ridin' the hobby horse with Viking Lad, to add insult to injury!), and poor Lady Death basically loses both sisters at once. God, I'm mean, huh?

Fortunately, the rest of this issue more than made up for Vandalu's "recovery." The battle scenes, Lady Death riding in on the Fenris wolf, Darkness held high, were outstanding. Lady Death belongs here, in the savage realm of the Norse gods and monsters. She seems to finally be embracing her heritage, letting her true warrior nature come to the surface.

Tyr? Him, Pagan, and Web should all go out for lunch sometime. What an egotistical jerk! I loved it when Lady Death put him in his place at the banquet table, but I fear she has made him a vengeful enemy now. I have no trouble picturing him betraying her to Genocide.

Sinestra's pounding was truly satisfying. Ugly on top of ugly, serves her right! She'll be back, I'll bet.

And of course finally LADY DEATH GOT SOME!! WOOO-HOOO!!

(She gets definite high points for her criteria used to select a playmate.) I mean, last time she did the deed was in "The Resurrection" #1, so I figure she's due. (No wonder she always seemed so pissed off! Crude remarks aside, yea for her! Male fans everywhere will be a-wishin' they were Grim tonight.)

There's so much more to the Lady Death storyline than that first ground-breaking mini series. Readers picking up the Crucible as their first Lady Death comic will be surprised by the way her saga first began. I think that the reprint of #1 will spark even more interest in the first three mini series, as new readers wonder how she moved from innocent victim, to Ruler of Hell, to Viking warrior. Inexpensive reprints of the early issues make her story more accessible, and hopefully gather more readers into the Chaos fold. Skeptics see that, she's not just another scantily-clad female character, titillating the fan-boys with the "Penthouse" poses that permeate other comics featuring women. Her character is so complex, her adventures so unpredictable. You can RESPECT Lady Death. I've always been more of an Evil Ernie and Purgatori fan, but Lady Death is fast becoming my favorite character.

Yrs 'til Ragnarok,  
J. Evers

*As always, we appreciate your input.*

## HEY CHAOS!

I just got done reading Lady Death: The Crucible #1 and it was great. The centerfold was cool, I mean, it was the cover in color, but it was good. But, hint, hint, bring chromium back to the first issue covers, please!! Anyway, that's not my reason for writing. I'd bet you've all heard this—this is the first time I've written to a comic book letters page, but it is true for me. See, I was unfortunate enough to only find out about Miss Death until Lady Death BH&H#3, so good for me, I got that set, got off the Marvel Bandwagon, and now read only Evil Ernie and Lady Death. Still not to my reason of writing yet. There was a letter on "Last Writes" of the Crucible from a Lyle Artis saying he officially challenges each and every Chaos! fan to write to Wizard, Fan, Combo, and CBG, and tell them to COVER CHAOS!! I want Lyle to know he's on! Look for a letter from me, probably in Wizard in "Magic Words" under the Bunny Awards that will pitch a fit and demand Lady Death gets on the next cover or I'll. . . I don't

know yet. But believe me, I will write and complain for the Diva Of Death, because I've found Happiness in Death & Chaos!!! Also, when are you coming out with the new Smiley Button? Make it like the one on Evil's jacket on the back of the STH issues! Thanx.

Tarrant Blyler

Dear Tarrant,

We'll be looking for that letter of support in "Magic Words." Thanks! Smiley, the Psychotic Button made his 3-D debut in 1994 and the Smiley Deluxe button, sculpted by Clayburn Moore and limited to 5,000 has completely sold out since it came out in January 1996! With the tremendous response, you can bet that there is something in the works.

## Editor's Note

### Chromium Trading Cards III

We have had many inquiries regarding the Black Mask cards in the new Lady Death III Chromium Trading Cards from Krome Productions. Each foil pack contains one Black Mask mystery card. The Black Mask card is a special card that has a black plastic coating that peels off to reveal either a standard Lady Death Chromium card or a special Lady Death Fractal Chromium Card!

Don't throw them away, just peel off the black coating (mask) by gently rubbing the corner of the card until the black mask lifts, then slowly peel it back.

These cards are not numbered on the back like the regular cards either, because it's a mystery as to which one you have. Trade them with other collectors, then peel the black mask off and see how you did.

If you have any further questions about the Black Mask Cards, please call toll free 1(888) CHAOS13 ex 536

## Next Issue:

Lady Death leads the undead Viking warriors, while Scorpio commands the Doom Magistrate's Necro elite guard. They're both on a crash course with a score to settle, and death is the only answer. You will be SHOCKED at the outcome!

Chris Oliver



# Lady Death®

*"The Crucible" part 3 (of 6): "Your Time Is Gonna Come"*



## The Story So Far

LADY DEATH's most harrowing, bloodthirsty adventure yet continues. As Lady Death discovers her lost heritage and learns her link to the Asgardian warrior women, THE VALKYRIES, she loses someone near and dear to her. Enraged and near berserk, she joins in the epic battle against GENOCIDE, a primal evil being so powerful that he causes Lucifer to tremble in fear. With the ruling Gods of Asgard dead and buried, can Lady Death and the demoralized Warrior clans prevail against Genocide or will his horrific DOOM MAGISTRATES unlock the power they quest for and use it against all creation?

Creator/Writer	Brian Pulido
Illustrator	Steven Hughes
Colorist	Jack Gray
Letterer	Comicaft's Dave Lanphear

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